24th Sunday after Pentecost | November 8, 2026



PRELUDE *The Fruit of the Spirit* arr. J.K. Bailey

WELCOME & BREATH PRAYER Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley

Please sign the sheet in the blue pad, pass it to another.
Place your signed sheet in the offering plate.
To offer a prayer, fill out a Prayer Card which will be collected during Prayer Time.

*CALL TO WORSHIP Matthew Bassett

**All are invited to rise in body, mind, or spirit.*

One: There is joy that bubbles up in laughter,
in music, in dancing, in the delight of being alive.

**All: There is joy that grows when we are together,
when we are seen, when we are welcomed,
when we know we belong.**

One: There is joy that persists through uncertainty,
that refuses to surrender to fear,
that makes room for hope even in difficult times.

**All: This joy is not a denial of what is hard.
It is an affirmation of what is good.**

One: So come, beloveds, just as you are—
whether joy feels abundant or difficult to find.

**All: Let us open our hearts to the joy already growing among us.
Let us worship God together!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Matthew

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another and pass the peace of Christ.

*OPENING HYMN *For Everyone Born* #403

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread;
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead.

Refrain:
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
compassion and peace;
Yes God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy.

For genders diverse, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share;
with wisdom and grace dividing the power,
for genders diverse, a system that's fair.[Refrain]

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child, in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong. [Refrain]

For gay and for straight, a place at the table,
transgender and queer in one single tree
engaging each gift and blessing each covenant
for gay and for straight, a new way to be. [Refrain]

TIME WITH CHILDREN Pastor Todd

Afterward, children are invited to
meet their teachers in the back of the sanctuary for Godly Play.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew

Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.[1] Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.[2] We receive trouble all the time, but that does not stop us. We do not always know what to do, but we are not afraid to continue. We have many enemies, but we always have friends. People hurt us, but they never destroy us.[3] [And] although you have not seen [Jesus], you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy.[4]

[1]Psalm 30:5b [NRSVUE]. [2]Psalm 126:5 [NRSVUE]. [3]2 Corinthians 4:8-9 [Easy English Bible]. [4]1 Peter 1:8 [NRSVUE]

MODERN LESSON Matthew

When asked, “What does trans and/or non-binary joy look like to you?” ALOK Vaid-Menon, a nonbinary writer, poet, and performer, responded:

“Our existence. Our very existence is glorious and scintillating. Such that they attempt to pass hundreds of laws to extinguish our flame. It took me a long time to realize it, but I’m finally here. They hunt us precisely because of our joy. Our joy is worldmaking.”

Source: Interview in *Xtra Magazine*, May 5, 2022.

SERMON *Resisting Despair: Make Jelly* Pastor Todd

ANTHEM *This Joy*

This joy that I have - the world didn't give it to me (3x)
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This strength that I have...
This love that I have...
This pride that I have...
This peace that I have...
This joy that I have...

TIME OF PRAYER Pastor Todd

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

All: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TIME OF GIVING Matthew

Invitation to Give

Offertory *Hymn to Joy* Thomas Keesecker

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Offertory Prayer

For those of you who have already made a gift by check or automated giving, we are grateful. If you would like to make a gift today, please place it in the offering plate or give using the website, or scan the QR code using your mobile device.

Missed a service or just want to watch it again?
Email the office for the YouTube link.

WORK OF THE PEOPLE Pastor Todd

*CLOSING HYMN *I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy*

1. I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
   Down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
   I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
   Down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

Refrain (with clapping)
And I'm so happy, so very happy, I've got the love of our God in my heart!
And I'm so happy, so very happy, I've got the love of our God in my heart!

2. I've got the joy that keeps on dancing, dancing, dancing, dancing,
   Down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
   I've got the joy that keeps on dancing, dancing, dancing, dancing,
   Down in my heart, down in my heart to stay. [Refrain]

3. I've got the joy that keeps on growing, growing, growing, growing,
   Down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
   I've got the joy that keeps on growing, growing, growing, growing,
   Down in my heart, down in my heart to stay. [Refrain]

   [Repeat v.1]

*BENEDICTION Pastor Todd

People of God, carry the light out with you as you depart in hope and love.
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Worship Notes



ALOK Vaid-Menon (they/them) is an internationally acclaimed nonbinary, gender-nonconforming poet, writer, comedian, and performance artist. Through poetry, storytelling, fashion, and humor, ALOK challenges traditional ideas about gender and explores themes of identity, belonging, love, and self-expression. They are the author of *Beyond the Gender Binary*, *Femme in Public*, and *Your Wound/My Garden*. Their work celebrates the beauty of human diversity and imagines a world where everyone has the freedom to be fully themselves. Credit: Press Association via CPImages; Elham Numan/Xtra

*Rise in body, mind, or spirit.

Space for REFLECTION

Use this page to follow along with the sermon and take it home to continue and reflect.

As you look at our sanctuary tree and this week's image, what do you notice? What's changing? What's growing?

Can joy survive even in the presence of grief? If not, why? If so, how?

Where have you witnessed joy growing among us?

What makes room for joy in our lives and in our community?

If joy were a fruit, which would it be?

What was the most meaningful thing you experienced in worship today?

What's HAPPENING

Advent Wreath Helpers

Tuesday, November 17 | 10:00am

If you are free and interested in helping us spruce up our Advent wreaths, meet Karol Mead and Janis Jang in the Sanctuary. We sure can use the help!

TGIF at the McGraths

Friday, November 13 | 5:30pm

All are welcome for this super simple, end-of-week, supper get-together! It's a casual time for people to catch up and connect/reconnect with our DCC Community. Hosted by Pat McGrath and Kyra Kennedy – Danville. Open house from 5:30pm to 8:00pm – Drop by for however long it works for you. Kids are very welcome! No RSVP necessary – just bring a pizza or dish you'd like to share, enough that covers your family, plus BYO (wine, beer, soda).

Men's Luncheon

Tuesday, November 10 | 11:30am

Join the men's group for lunch and lively discussion at Hazy BBQ in Danville. Please contact Tahir Mahmood with any questions..

Advent Flowers

Advent has begun and to celebrate the season, the Worship Commission extends the opportunity for you to honor or commemorate the memory of someone by donating Advent flowers to fill our sanctuary this Advent To make a donation, fill out the bulletin insert this week or fill and print our the online form (See Wingspan) Take the completed form along with your check or money and give it to Carol Bassett, place in the offering plate, or drop off/email it to the church office or use our website to make your donation and designation. In addition, the Endowment Committee invites you to remember a loved by making a donation using the same form.

Morning Prayer

Wednesdays | 10:00am

Pastor Todd facilitates morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10:00am via Zoom and in the Sanctuary. Contact the office or see Wingspan *for the link.*

Save the DATES

Hanging of the Greens

November 22 | after worship

Luncheon and Cookie Exchange:

December 13 | after worship



Use the QR code above to access all the information about these activities.

Preaching SCHEDULE

Next Sunday..... Pastor Todd
November 22 ..... Pastor Todd

Note to Worshippers

Please take note of the emergency exits around you and locate the nearest one to you. Be aware of others' personal space and space yourselves out in the sanctuary accordingly. Remember to invite consent before shaking hands and hugging. The left-hand section of pews as you enter the sanctuary has been designated for those who are free of scents and perfumes. We ask that your silence your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary. If you would like to use one of our listening-assistance devices, see the sound technician in the back of the sanctuary. Worship time is generally 70 minutes—75 on Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of each month.

First-Time Guests

Welcome to Danville Congregational Church! *We are glad you have joined us today*. We'd love to share with you what is happening at DCC. If you're willing, provide your contact information on the Guest Info cards available in the Narthex or on one of the sheets in the blue pew pads passed around early in the service. Our Welcome Commissioner, Joyce Klassen, and our pastors are glad to connect with you and share more about DCC. [Feel free to ask any of our members as well!] We look forward to connecting with you!

Land Acknowledgement

DCC acknowledges that the land this house of worship sits upon is the traditional, unceded land of the Ohlone and Bay Miwok people. We offer this land acknowledgment as a sign of respect, with the knowledge that this land was sacred before we ever arrived.

Open and Affirming Congregation

DCC is an Open and Affirming church, welcoming **all** of God's people—of diverse race, age, gender, sexual orientation, family status, economic condition, and physical, mental, and emotional ability.

Emerging Anti-Racist Church

Since 2020, DCC has been on a journey of healing and solidarity as we strive, as an expression of our faith, to undo systems of white supremacy within the Christian church and in the wider culture. We realize this work will never be finished but strive to become *Anti-Racist* as a community, in our worship, and our ministry together.

Families with Children

Godly Play (for children ages preschool through 5th grade) is offered immediately following Time With Children. All children are invited to participate in Godly Play. Our nursery is available for those who wish to access it.

Prayer Requests

The DCC Prayer Team prays daily for those in need of prayers. To submit a prayer request for yourself or someone else, contact a pastor or send an email to prayers@danvillechurch.org. Requests are kept confidential unless specified otherwise.

Pastoral Availability

Pastor Todd keeps regular office hours remotely on Monday and in the office Tuesday through Thursday. To meet with Pastor Todd, reach out to him directly via phone or text (510.710.1280) or at todd@danvillechurch.org.

Pastor Lauren keeps regular office hours Tuesdays and Wednesdays and remotely on Thursdays. You can reach Pastor Lauren by phone or text (510.684.9183) or at lauren@danvillechurch.org.

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

Church Staff

Senior Pastor ..... The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley
Minister of Youth &
Community Engagement ..... The Rev. Lauren Jewett
Music Director ..... John Kendall Bailey
Office & Communications
Manager ..... Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam

Church Leadership

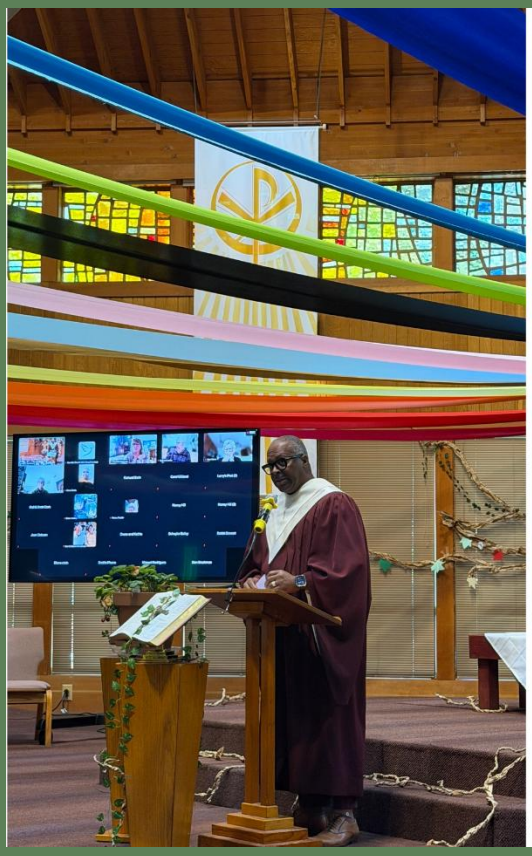
Co-Moderators ..... Alene Riley & Heidi Bridgeman
Vice Moderator ..... Dianne Dorn
Financial Secretary ..... Doug Leich
Acting Treasurer ..... Steve Bridgeman
Clerk ..... Eileen Ackley
Building and Grounds ..... Tom Sonnemann
Children and Youth ..... Pastor Lauren
Community Life ..... Kyra Kennedy
Dayspring Preschool ..... Nancy Halseth
Journeys in Faith ..... Carrie Hrousis
Outreach ..... Doug Leich
Stewardship ..... Barb DeBarger
Welcome and Media ..... Joyce Klassen
Worship ..... Tahir Mahmood

Dayspring Preschool Staff

Director ..... Maria Arroyo
Administrative Assistant ..... Stacey Perez

Upcoming Gatherings

11/8 SUNDAY	8:30AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30AM Worship In-person and Online 10:45AM Fellowship (Koinonia Hall) 11:15AM Commission Meetings
11/10 TUESDAY	11:30AM Men's Luncheon (Hazy BBQ) 1:00PM Diaconate Meeting
11/11 WEDNESDAY	10:00AM Morning Prayer (Sanctuary or Zoom) 2:30PM CARE Support Group 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal
11/13 FRIDAY	5:30PM TGIF at the McGraths





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